

Lawrence Washington, March 11, 1698, Will, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

WILL OF LAWRENCE WASHINGTON.¹

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN I Lawrence Washington of Washington parish in the County of Westmo[re]land in Virginia gentleman being of good and perfect memory thanks be unto almighty God for it and calling to mind the uncertane Estate of this transitory Life and that all flesh must yeild unto death when it shall please God for to call doe make constitute ordaind and declare this my last will and Testament in manner and form following, revoking and annulling by these presents all and every Testament and Testaments will or wills heartofore by me made and declared either by word or writing and this to be taken only for my Last will and Testament and no other. and first being heartily sorry from the bottom of my heart for my Sines most humbly deserving² forgiveness of the same from the allmighty God my saviour and Redeemer in whom by the merits of Jesus Christ I trust and beleive assuredly to be saved and to have full remission and forgiveness of all my Sines, and that my — Soule with my body at the general day of resurrection shall rise againe with joy and through the merits of Christs death and passion possess and inherit the Kingdom of heaven prepared for his Elect and chosen, and my body to be buried if please God I Depart in this County of Westmorland by the side of my father and mother & neare my Brother and Sister & my Children. and now for the setling of my temporal Estate and such goods Chattells & debts & it hath pleased God farr above my deserts to bestow upon me I doe ordaine give and dispose the same in manner & form following In primis. I will that all those Debts and dues that I owe in right or conseince to

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any manner of person or persons whatsoever shall be well Contented & paid ordained to be paid by my Executor or Executrix hereafter named. Item I give and bequeath to my well beloved friends Mr. William Thompson Clerk Mr. Samuel Thompson each of them a mourning ring of thirty Shillings price each Ring. Item I give and bequeath to my Godson Lawrence Butler one young mare & two cowes. Item I give and bequeath to my sister Ann Writts Children one man Servant a piece of four or five years to Serve or three thousand pounds of Tobacco to purchase the same to be delivered or paid to them when they arrive to the age of twenty years old. Item I give and bequeath to my Sister Lewis a mourning ring of forty Shillings price. Item I give my Cozen John Washington Senr. of Stafford-County all my wereing apparell. Item I give unto my Cozen John Washington eldest son Lawrence Washington my Godson one man Servent of four or five yeares to serve, or three thousand pounds of Tobacco to purchase the same to be paid him when he comes to the age of twenty years old. Item I give to my Godson[s] Lawrence Butler and Lewis Nicholas — that tract of Land joyning upon Meridah Edwards and Danil White being two hundred and Seventy five acres to be equally divided between them and their heirs for ever. Item I give to the upper and Lower Churches of Washington parish each of them a pulpit Cloath and Cushing. Item it is my will to have a funerall Sermon at the Church & to have now other funerall to exceed three thousand pounds of Tobacco. Item it is my will after my debts & Legacies are paid that my personall Estate be equally divided in to four parts my Loving wife Mildred Washington to have one part my Son John Washington to have another part & my daughter Mildred Washington to have the other part. (to be paid and delivered to them in Specie when they shall come to the age of twenty years old) Item I give to my Son John Washington this seat of Land where I now Live and that whole tract of Land Lying from the mouth of Machotick extending to [a] place called the round hill with the addition I have thereunto made of William Webb and William Rush to him and his Heires for ever. Item I give a[nd] bequeath unto my Son Augustine Washington all the dividend of Land that I bought of Mr. Robert Lissons Children in England, Lying in Mattox between my Brother and Mr. Baldridges Land Where Mr. Daniel Lisson formerly lived by estimation four hundred Acres to him and his heires for Ever, as likewise that Land that

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was Mr. Richard Hills. Item I give & bequeath unto my Said Son Augustine Washington all that tract of Land where Mr. Lewis Markham now Lives after the said Markhams and his now wives³ decease by estimation Seven hundred acres more or less to him and his heirs for Ever Item I give and bequeath my daughter Mildred Washington all my Land in Stafford County — Lying upon Hunting Creek where Mrs. Eliza. Minton and Mrs. Williams now Lives by estimation two thousand five hundred acres, to her and her heires for Ever.⁴ Item it is my will and desire if either of my Children should die before they come of age or day of marriage, his or her personal Estate be equally divided between the two Survivors and their mother. Item it is my will and desire if all my Children should die before they come of age or day of Marriage that my brothers Children shall enjoy all their estate, excepting that Land that I bought of Mr Robert Lissons Children which I give to my Loving wife and her heires for ever, and the rest as afore said to them and their heirs for ever. Item I give my personal estate in case of all my Childrens death as aforesaid to be equally divided between my wife and Brothers Children my wife to have the one halfe. Item I give that Land which I bought of my Brother [blank] Wright being two hundred acres Lying near Markhams⁵ Quarter to my Son John Washington and his heirs for Ever. Item it is my desire that my Estate should not be appraised but kept intire, and delivered them as above given according to him⁶ and my Children to continue under the care and tuition of their mother till they come of age or day of marriage and she to have the profits of their estates towards the bringing of them up and Keeping them to School. Item I doe ordaine and appoint my Cozen John Washington of Stafford County and my Friend Mr Samuel Thompson my Executors and my Loving wife Mildred Washington my Executrix, of this my last will and Testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this 11th day of March Anno Domini 169 7/8 LAWRENCE WASHINGTON [Seal] Sign'd Seald declared and pronounced in presence of ROBERT REDDMAN GEORGE WEEDON THOMAS HOWES JOHN ROSIER.

Witness At a Court held for the said county the 30th day of March 1698.

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The last will and Testament of Lawrence Washington gentleman dec'd within writing was proved by the oaths of George Weedon Thomas Howes and John Rosier three of the witness's thereto subscribed A Probat thereof granted to Samuel Thompson gentl one of the Executors therein named, and the will ordered to be Recorded Pr. Cur.

JA: WESTCOMB Cla Com pb Recordat tertio die April 1698 Eundm Chum Copa. Eai Pr
THOMAS BORRELL

1 Grandfather of George.

2 So in manuscript.

3 So in manuscript.

4 There appears here in this will as given in Ford's Washington Wills, "Item I give my water mill to my son John Washington to him and his heirs forever." This item is not in the copy found in the manuscripts.

5 In Ford's Washington Wills this reads "Storkes."

6 So in manuscript; should read "time."